CLAIMS

1. A point-to-point communications device comprising receiving means for receiving a message, control means for determining if a received message is destined for the communication device and alerting means for producing an alerting signal, the alerting signal being determined from the received message.

2. A communications device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the alerting signal is an audible melodic signal.

3. A communications device as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that the audible melodic signal is derived from a numeric message received by the receiving means.

4. A communications device as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterised in that the control means divides the received message into a plurality of predesignated fields, one of which fields is used by the control means to determine tempo and other of said fields are used by the control means to determine notes.

5. A communications device as claimed in claim 3, characterised in that the control means divides the received message into a plurality of predesignated fields, one of which fields is used by the control means to determine tempo, another of which fields is used by the control means to determine the number of plays of the melodic signal and further ones of said fields are used by the control means to determine notes.

6. A communications device as claimed in claim 4 or 5, characterised in that each note is represented by a double character field and in that the control means in response to ascertaining that there is an odd number of characters in the message adds a character to a predetermined single character

to provide a double character field representative of a note.

7. A method of generating a melody in a point-to-point communications device, comprising receiving and decoding a message, and generating a melody using decoded message data.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, characterised by dividing the decoded message into a plurality of predesignated fields, one of which fields is used to determine tempo and other of said fields are used to determine notes.

9. A method as claimed in claim 7, characterised by dividing the decoded message data into a plurality of predesignated fields, one of which fields is used to determine tempo, another of which fields is used to determine the number of plays of the melody signal and further ones of said fields are used to determine notes.

10. A method as claimed in claim 8 or 9, characterised in that a note is represented by a double character field and in that in response to ascertaining that there is an odd number of characters, a predetermined character is added to a predetermined single character to provide a double character representative of a note.